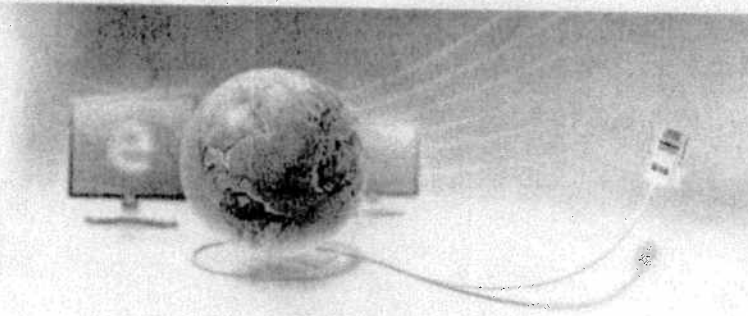




Learning Technology
Center 1 Central



Stilgebauer Award 2010 – Application Form

Please provide the information below. This application form needs to accompany the Project Summary for the project to be considered for a Stilgebauer award. Individuals or teams may complete the required information for their own project(s) or for another teacher or group's project

Project Name: <u>Country Challenges</u>	
School Regional Area	<input type="checkbox"/> North Cook <input type="checkbox"/> South Cook <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> West 40
District Name	<u>LaGrange Highlands</u>
District No.	<u>106</u>
Name(s)-Teams with up to 5 members will be accepted! Include all names.	Email Address(s)
* <u>Chris Kissel</u>	* <u>ckissel@district106.net</u>
*	*
*	*
*	*
*	*
School Name	<u>Highlands Middle School</u>
School Street Address	<u>1850 Plainfield Rd</u>
School City, State, Zip	<u>LaGrange, IL 60525</u>
School Phone Number	<u>708 485 3519</u>
If you are providing information to nominate another teacher or group, please provide your information below (if different from those named above).	
Nominator's Name	<u>Janette Lanciloti</u>
Nominator's Phone #	<u>708 485 3450</u>
Best Contact Time	<u>8:30 - 10:30 am</u>
Nominator's Email	<u>jlanciloti@district106.net</u>

Please attach the Project Summary to this form and send to Learning Technology Center
One Central at 2701 W. Washington Blvd., 2nd Floor, Bellwood, IL 60104

Larry Stilgebauer Technology Award 2010

Project Descriptive Title: Country Challenges

Project Abstract: Students created a 3 minute documentary in iMovie on a specific country highlighting the population changes, economic activity, climate and way of life. They also gave solutions for improving the country based on the problems affecting the country.

Grade Level: 7th

Subject Area: Social Studies

Technology Resources: Nettekker, internet websites, digital cameras, iMovie, itunes, Pages, Discovery Education streaming videos, iphoto

Other materials used: social studies textbook

Standards:

NETS S 3b: Students locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.

NETS S 4a: identify and define authentic problems and significant questions for investigations

NETS S 4c: collect and analyze data to identify solutions and /or make informed decisions

NETS S 2b: communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats

IL State goal 17.C.3a: Explain how human activity is affected by geographic factors

IL State goal 17.C.3c: Analyze how human processes influence settlement patterns including migration and population growth

IL State goal 17.D.3b: Explain how interactions of geographic factors have shaped present conditions

Process:

This project was introduced about a month into the school year after students had gained some geography skills but before they began learning and applying those skills to specific countries around the world. The purpose of the project was to give students a global perspective of the world and introduce them to a variety of countries before they begin in-depth study of each area of the world.

First, students were introduced to the project and given a list of countries in which they could choose to research. Student names were drawn using popsicle sticks to give them a random chance at choosing a country to research. Students were given a rubric created at Rubistar at beginning of project so that they could see what was expected of them and how they would be assessed on their project. Students used a portfolio of websites stored on Nettekker and their textbook for gathering information. For images and video they used the built in camera on their laptop, Nettekker, and Discovery Education online videos. Students used iphoto to store and organize all images for the project. Students gathered music such as the country's national anthem from iTunes. Students were given the focus question, What challenges does your country

face?" They were to analyze information such as population growth, economic activity, climate and way of life to look at the challenges of the country and suggest several solutions to improve this country based on their findings. During research time, students were instructed how to analyze facts. For example, how to identify causes of population increase or decline. This was very important for the students to understand that they were not just recalling facts but analyzing them and drawing conclusions to the problems of the country. Students were also instructed on how to cite sources and include a works cited/credits at end of imovie project.

Students were instructed on the use of imovie software to create a documentary with text, narration, images, video, sounds, etc. This was a week long project.

Integration:

This project integrated technology at the highest level of Bloom's taxonomy, creating and evaluating. Students enjoyed creating their own movie about the country they were to research. It wasn't about listing a bunch of facts like population, literacy rate, etc. It was about identifying problems and analyzing the data to produce solutions to the country's problems. Students presented their movies to the class. Each one was different and allowed students to exhibit their own personal learning style. They were highly engaged in the process and took ownership of the project because they choose the country and created the movie.

Reflection:

This project is a culmination of many aspects of Geography. It develops ideas about population patterns, economic activities and future development for countries on every continent. Students did a fine job planning, researching and gathering information and bringing it all together in an imovie. This is my first time using imovie and I found it to be a very engaging and interesting way for students to learn about their chosen country and the USA. Most students put forth their best effort and created high quality, documentary style imovies. I was pleased with the depth of their understanding of their research and their skill with the imovie computer program.

Because students enjoyed the process and used their time efficiently and effectively, I will look at other technology rich methods to use for a second project in the spring. It likely will not be an imovie, but I will find another technology-rich method of instruction.